



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



August 2001

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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### ILLINOIS, Northeast

ILZ014

Cook

01 0000CST 1 0 Excessive Heat  
2000CST

An excessive heat watch was issued on Monday July 30th and an excessive heat warning was issued on Wednesday, August 1st. This heat wave began in late July 2001 (See StormData, July 2001, Illinois, Northeast). The high temperature at Ohare Airport was 92 on August 1st. Heat indices on August 1st were in the upper 90s to 100 degrees. M40PH

Cook County  
Countywide

02 0630CST 0 0 37M Flash Flood  
1100CST

Thunderstorms developed over northern Cook county between 6 and 7 am on the morning of Thursday August 2nd. The storms slowly moved southeast across central and eastern Cook county. The thunderstorms began to move out of southern Cook county between 10 and 11 am. Rain was falling at the rate of 3 to 4 inches per hour at some locations.

Areas that had significant flooding include the Edens expressway at Pratt, where 6 to 8 feet of water covered the interstate and 3 cars were submerged. The Edens was closed from Touhy to Peterson. The Dan Ryan was closed and flooded between 83rd and 87th. Hubbard's cave was flooded and impassible. The underground parking garage at The Museum of Science and Industry was flooded and closed. Eisenhower at Kennedy had 3 to 4 feet of water covering the interstates. The Metra station at Van Buren was closed for a few hours due to flooding in one of the tunnels. Lakeshore Drive at Foster was flooded. Several people had to be rescued from their vehicles. 228 vehicles were reported to have been towed from flooded roads or viaducts. Many other smaller intersections and viaducts across the city of Chicago and parts of Cook county were flooded and impassible. No injuries were reported from the flooding.

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency indicated that nearly 10,000 homes suffered some type of water damage during this event. Some rainfall totals include: 3.50 inches in Chicago between 730 am and 830 am, 3.58 inches at Burbank between 8 am and 11 am. Storm total rainfall was 4.78 inches at Chicago's Loop, 3.95 inches at Skokie, 3.95 inches at Wilmette, 3.50 inches at Wrigleyville, 3.41 inches at Willow Springs, 3.04 inches at Burr Ridge, 2.32 inches at Park Forest and 1.89 inches at Olympia fields. A 93 mile tunnel used to hold rain water during periods of heavy rain filled in just over an hour, holding approximately 1.6 billion gallons of water. The Chicago Park District opened locks at Wilmette and downtown Chicago to allow rain water to flow directly into Lake Michigan.

In addition to the flooding, numerous reports of power lines and tree limbs blown down were received all across Cook county. Estimated wind speeds were between 40 and 50 mph. 56,000 customers lost power at the height of the storms.

Livingston County  
Chatsworth

02 0955CST 0 0 Thunderstorm Wind (G61)

Two 400 pound sticks of plastic were picked up and blown across a street.

ILZ014

Cook

06 0800CST 14 0 Excessive Heat  
09 2000CST

The high temperature climbed to 92 degrees at Ohare Airport on August 6th with a maximum heat index of 93 degrees. Heat indices around the Chicago metro area were in the middle 90s. On August 7th, the high temperature was 95 at Ohare Airport with a heat index of 105 degrees, maximum heat indices around the metro area were in the 105 to 108 range. On August 8th, the high temperature was 93 at Ohare airport with a heat index of 98 degrees, maximum heat indices around the metro area were in the 100 to 102 range. On August 9th, the high temperature was at Ohare was 95 degrees with a heat index of 100 degrees, maximum heat indices were in the 100 to 104 range. M77PH, F78PH, F72PH, F84PH, M56PH, F45PH, M70PH, M53PH, F87PH, M72PH, M75PH, F74PH, F82PH, M49PH



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### ILLINOIS, Northeast

Ogle County Countywide	09	1800CST 1810CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
McHenry County Countywide	09	1830CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G55)
De Kalb County 2 E Sycamore	09	1835CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
Lake County Fox Lake to Wauconda	09	1835CST 1845CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52) <sup>M</sup>
Boone County Capron	09	1849CST M16GF			1	0			Lightning
Kane County Dundee to Carpentersville	09	1855CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
Cook County Barrington	09	1910CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
Du Page County Villa Park	09	1920CST			0	0			Hail (1.75)
Kane County Aurora	09	1920CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
La Salle County Earlville	09	1950CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
Grundy County Coal City	09	2005CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
Kankakee County Bourbonnais	09	2040CST			0	0	40K		Thunderstorm Wind (G60)
Will County Beecher	09	2040CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)

A line of strong thunderstorms moved southeast from Wisconsin into Northern Illinois during the evening hours of Thursday, August 9th. These thunderstorms mainly blew down trees and power lines at the following locations: Across all of Ogle and McHenry counties; Fox Lake and Wauconda in Lake county; two miles east of Sycamore in DeKalb county; Dundee, Carpentersville, and Aurora in Kane county; Barrington in Cook county; Earlville in LaSalle county; Coal City in Grundy county; and Beecher in Will county. In Bourbonnais in Kankakee county, a 20 foot by 120 foot metal framed storage building was picked up and carried 10 feet. It landed on 9 parked vehicles. The storage building was a total loss and all nine vehicles suffered major damage. A 16 year old boy was struck by lightning at golf course in Capron in Boone county, the boy died two days later on August 11th. Over 50,000 customers lost power during the storms.

Ford County 2 W Gibson City to Paxton	18	1220CST 1310CST			0	0			Hail (1.25)
A slow moving thunderstorm moved across southern Ford county during the early afternoon on August 18th, producing hail as large as half dollars across most of southern Ford county.									
Boone County Herbert	22	1620CST			0	0			Hail (0.88)
Kane County Hampshire	22	1645CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G61) <sup>M</sup>



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### ILLINOIS, Northeast

#### Kane County

Carpentersville	22	1655CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
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#### Cook County

Rolling Meadows	22	1700CST 1800CST			0	0			Urban/Sml Stream Fld
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#### Cook County

Morton Grove	22	1715CST 1720CST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
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#### Cook County

Morton Grove	22	1715CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
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#### Livingston County

Fairbury	22	1825CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
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A line of thunderstorms moved south into northern Illinois from Wisconsin during the late afternoon and evening of Wednesday, August 22nd. Hail was reported in Herbert in Boone county, Carpentersville in Kane county, and Morton Grove in Cook county. A wind gust to 70 mph was reported in Hampshire in Kane county while trees and power lines were reported down in Morton Grove in Cook county. Hail was also reported in Fairbury in Livingston county. Several roads had minor flooding from heavy rain in Rolling Meadows in Cook county.

#### Du Page County

West Chicago	25	0914CST			0	0	25K		Lightning
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Lightning struck a house and started a fire in the attic and roof.

#### Will County

Plainfield to Naperville	25	1355CST 1359CST			0	0			Funnel Cloud
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#### Will County

Plainfield	25	1359CST	0.1	20	0	0			Tornado (F0)
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#### Du Page County

Naperville	25	1400CST 1415CST			0	0			Funnel Cloud
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There were several reports of a funnel cloud from law enforcement officials and spotters. The sightings were from the north side of Plainfield at the Will-Kendall County line near 111th and Route 30, east northeast to near 75th and Route 53 on the east side of Naperville. According to police, the funnel touched down briefly near Route 59 and 95th Street but there was no damage reported.

#### Grundy County

Kinsman	30	2130CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
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A large wooden fence was blown over. A dumpster was blown one block and a six inch diameter tree branch was blown about a block from the tree.

#### Cook County

North Portion	30	2145CST 2350CST			0	0			Flash Flood
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Thunderstorms developed over northern Illinois during the evening hours of Thursday, August 30th. A series of thunderstorms moved across northern Cook county dumping torrential amounts of rainfall. Chicago Ohare Airport received 4.31 inches of rain, most of which fell between 9 pm and 11 pm. This rainfall brought the total for the month of August 2001 to 12.25 inches, making this the second wettest month on record for Chicago.

Flooding was reported on the Kennedy expressway at Cumberland in Park Ridge, the intersection of River and Lee roads in Des Plaines, Industrial Park in Elk Grove, and portions of the Edens expressway. The 93 mile deep tunnel was filled to capacity with 1.6 billion gallons of water by midnight, forcing the Wilmette locks to be opened to dump 75 million gallons of storm and sewer water directly into Lake Michigan. There was one indirect death blamed on the heavy rain. A motorist who said her vision was impaired by pounding rain, struck and killed a 23 year old man.



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					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

### INDIANA, Northwest

#### Porter County

##### Chesterton

02 1010CST 0 0 25K Lightning

Lightning struck a tree, went down a security wire which was nailed to the tree, blew out wall sockets in a garage, traveled underground, blew out a light and a pump in a pool and finally struck a gas meter, but did not cause a fire.

#### Lake County

##### 3 NE Gary

13 1600CST 1 0 Rip Currents

A 19 year old man drowned after he was caught in a rip current while swimming along the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. M19IW

#### Benton County

##### Countywide

18 1425EST  
1515EST 0 0 1K 20K Hail (4.00)

A slow moving thunderstorm moved from east central Illinois into Benton county during the afternoon of August 18th. This thunderstorm produced hail to the size of grapefruit 3 miles north of Otterbein, where several windows and a roof of a house were damaged. Hail to the size of tennis balls flattened about 15,000 acres of corn and soybeans north of Oxford.

#### Lake County

##### Merrillville to Hobart

25 1631CST  
1637CST 4.5 150 0 2 100K Tornado (F1)

A tornado touched down in Merrillville just east of the intersection of Merrillville Road and 84th Street. There was spotty minor structural damage in an industrial park with some small trees broken or pushed over, damage to signs and a few broken windows. Many structures and trees in the path had no damage. Just west of I-65, parts of the roof and glass walls of a commercial building were damaged. East of I-65, just south of Route 30, there was more damage to signs. A semi was overturned. Two people were injured by broken glass at a restaurant in Hobart. Part of the roof and a section of a wall was blown out at a Kohl's department store. The tornado crossed Route 30 and caused minor structural damage, mostly to signs and glass, at a strip mall. Behind the shops, corn was flattened and trees were damaged. The tornado then moved into the Green Acres subdivision near Colorado Street and 78th Street. A garage collapsed and many large tree limbs were blown down through the neighborhood. The tornado then weakened. Only minor damage to a few tree limbs occurred around the 7600 block of Clay Street and just south and east of the intersection of Grand and 73rd. The average path width was 50 yards.

#### Porter County

##### Wheeler

25 1643CST  
1644CST 0.5 40 0 0 Tornado (F0)

A small weak tornado touched down briefly on the north side of Wheeler. A few tree limbs were blown down and corn was flattened.

#### Benton County

##### Boswell

30 1346EST 0 0 Hail (1.00)